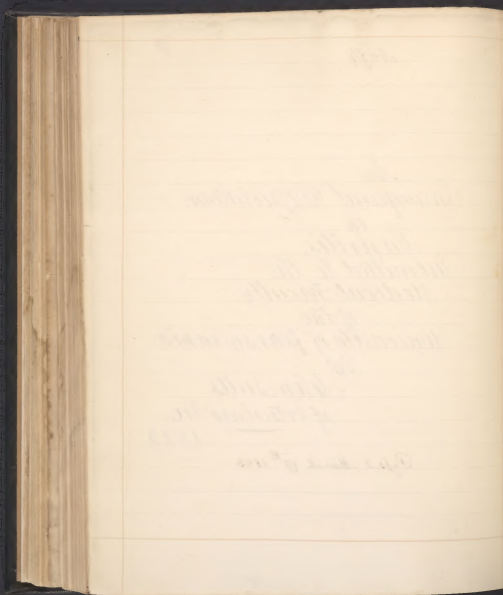


No 74

An
Inaugural Dissertation,
on
Gastritis,
Submitted to the
Medical Faculty
of the
University of Pennsylvania.
By
John Butts,
of Petersburg Va.

1823

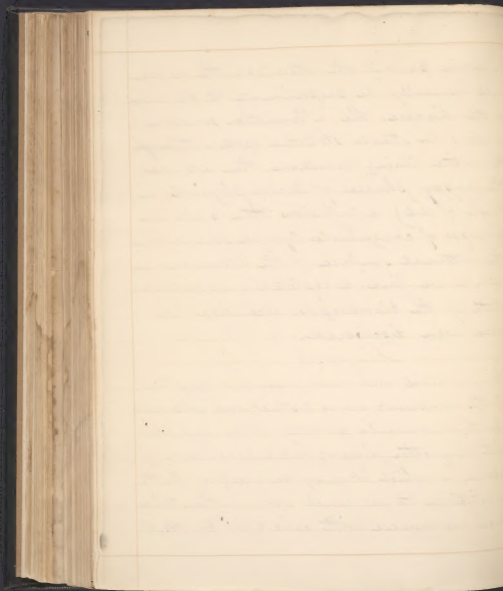
Passed March 19th 1823



on some part of the stomach, the degree will generally be proportionate to the course of the disease. The inflammation sometimes appears in streaks, stellated spots, or through the entire lining membrane, there is, to use the happy phrase of Doctor Physick (a blush of red) or suffusion, there is also an effusion of coagulable lymph spread over the internal surface of the stomach; in general, we find a repleted and distended state of the bloodvessels; ulceration has also been discovered.

Diagnosis

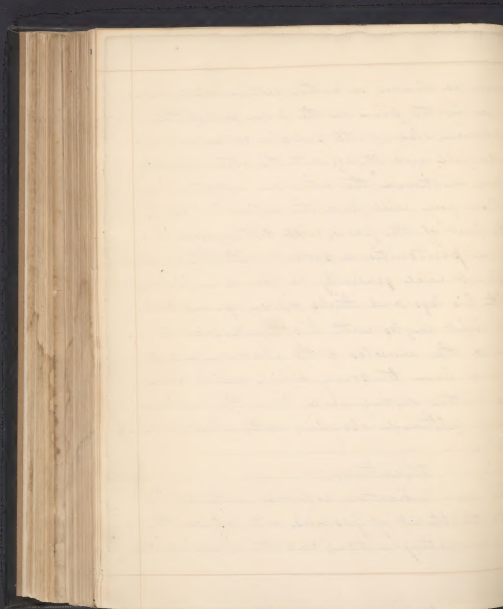
The principal and most conspicuous symptoms of this complaint, are so distinct and well marked, that it would probably not be confounded with any other disease; but, perhaps cases may occur, in which it may be necessary for the practitioner to use much discrimination. It has been confounded with colic & peritonitis. It



may be known or rather distinguished from colic by the pain in the lower part of the abdomen, also by the pulse in colic, being much more full and strong; with the other symptoms above mentioned, the situation or position in which you will find the patient in bed, & the seat of the pain, will distinguish it from peritonitis; a patient with this complaint will generally be found on his back with his legs and thighs drawn up, and bent at right angles with his trunk, so as to relax the muscles of the abdomen, and to afford him temporary relief, and it may be further distinguished from the medicine given (although operating well) affording no relief.

Treatment

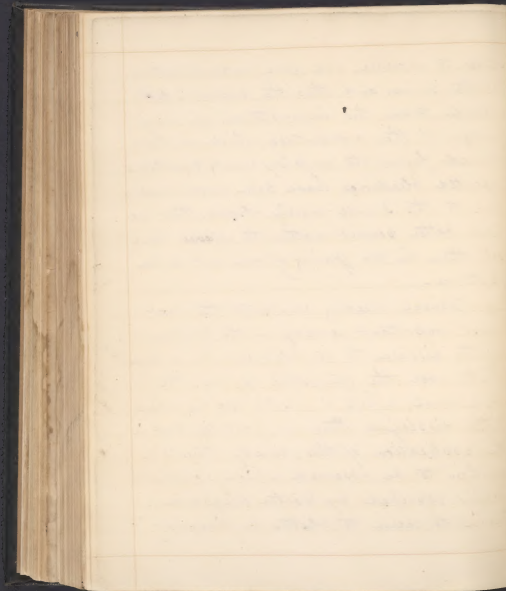
The great indication as before mentioned in the treatment of Gastritis, is to reduce the inflammatory action; and the most immediate



and effectual means of lessening this action
is by venesection; a just estimate of the
value of this remedy will easily be con-
ceived, if we reflect, that this disease is
an acute inflammation of an organ, the
most irritable and delicate in its nature,
and, unless we are possessed of some such
prompt and efficient means of arresting its
progress, the patient must inevitably, and
that in a very short time, fall a victim
to its violence; to obtain the fullest, and
most beneficial results from this remedy,
we must, without regard to the pulse,
attack the complaint with fearless intre-
pidity, taking away thirty or forty ounces
of blood, and repeating in a very short
time, if the indications still continue. In
a majority of cases which require venesection
its apparent effect is to reduce febrile action;
In the disease now under consideration it

seems to increase, and give natural action to the pulse, and thus the disease is developed. From this circumstance, we may judge of the advantage which we have derived from its employment; small, and repeated bleedings have been recommended but to this I will merely observe, that we had better permit nature to relieve herself than be too sparing of our art in her assistance.

Topical bleeding constitutes the next most important remedy in the treatment of this disease, to be followed by a large blister over the epigastric region; the beneficial effects of blisters are no where better displayed than in Gastritis; but, in the application of this remedy there is a caution to be observed which is emphatically expressed by Doctor Chapman; "never to recur to blisters in diseases of



high action, and you have seen
the action in conversation, and the
collected mind; and will naturally
conclude that the whole should be
rested on even the power of the human
mind. Some diseases have common
small lists. In large periods, such
a large list occurs no more, and
the reader will find that the condition
is similar. The relation may also be broken
up into small degrees of change, such as
blackish, white, and other colors, and
other colors, and other colors, and other
colors. It is a very desirable object in
the commencement of the treatment to restore
the activity of the stomach, which is generally
excessive, so much so, that it nearly prohibits
the reception of any medicine, except
the use of peppermint and other condiments.
The following are generally good.

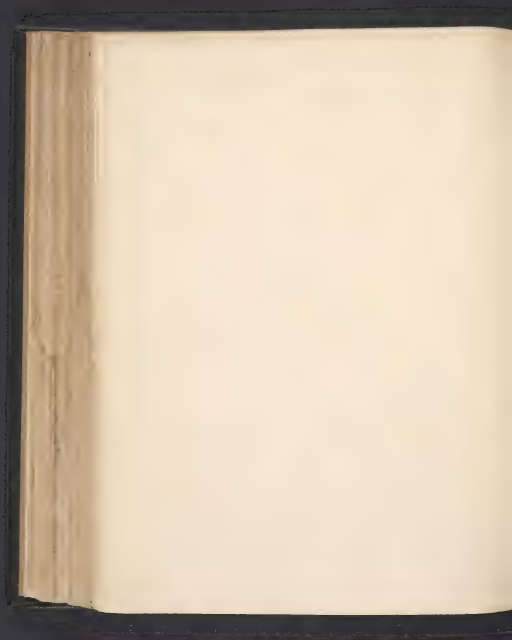


water of milk. I have not brought in much
more warm bath. Half pint of this and a cup of
cream at the same time. It is a good
sore throat remedy, which is really an in-
cessant attempt and to effect this re-
sult set to create and frequently
and in large quantities, composed of the
mildest articles. Such as castor oil, olive
oil, molasses, tepid water &c. or should be
more stimulating one to assist. A little
common salt should be added. Should the
case fail, then resort to the more drastic
after made by blending directly near
two table spoons of the oil of turpentine
with the milk of eggs, adding a pint of
water or the mixture of four or five
table spoons.

After the above is administered to
give the patient some relief and
to create thought to the mind,



[illegible]



of this complaint we find a variety of
sufferers and we rate the system and in
the future we must allow it to be
corrected: among the most useful of these
is the practice of temperature employed not only
and often by other articles calculated to
set the same indication into relief; our
resources in the treatment of this disease
are very limited, and unless it is provoked
on to move by the most energetic
and depletory measures, our efforts ex-
actly will prove ineffectual. But on the
contrary, if in the commencement we deal
with our most efficient & energetic
agents its rapid career, our efforts in
a majority of cases, will be attended
with the desired most pleasing to the
physician. the recovery of this patient =





The first thing I noticed when I stepped
 out of the car was a warm, sunny
 breeze. The air was perfect, not too hot,
 not too cold. It was just what I needed.
 I took a deep breath and felt a sense of
 relief. The sun was shining brightly, and
 the clouds were just a soft white blanket
 in the sky. I felt like I was in a new
 world, one that was full of life and
 possibility. I was excited to see what
 the day had in store for me.



bie symptoms, at others the disease is very insi-
dious in its attack, there being no symptoms
denoting the existence of the disease. Doctor
Chapman relates an instance, in which it
attacked the great toe, assuming the appear-
ance of regular podagra: a spasmodic
contraction of the muscles of the arm, and
an inflammation of the groin or pudendum
have been mentioned by Doctor Physick
as other delusive symptoms. The various
terminations of other inflammations, have
been ascribed to this disease; owing to the
acute sensibility, and the unlimited con-
nections of the stomach with the rest of
the system, it is natural to suppose, that
any thing calculated to excite this ex-
cessive irritability, will not allow time for
suppuration; but will, undauntedly re-
moved, act more immediately on the system,
and occasion death

Prognosis

The first and great indication in the treatment of this disease, is to effect a resolution of the inflammation as soon as possible; and a tendency to this, is known by the remarkable mildness of the symptoms, and their yielding to the proper remedies; and should this favourable termination be produced, we have some critical evacuation, either by perspiration, diarrhoea, or urine, the pulse becomes more soft and full, and diminishes in frequency, the pain gradually ceases, and the disease is stopped short; but on the contrary, if an uncommon severity of the symptoms exist, and there is no evident disposition to resolution after the application of our most efficient remedies, we must be prepared to meet the worst; Examinations post mortem generally exhibit some appearance of inflammation, either on the whole

